

SMOKE SIGNALS

For Radio Amateurs • By Radio Amateurs

Published Monthly Since 1969 • Our 31st Year

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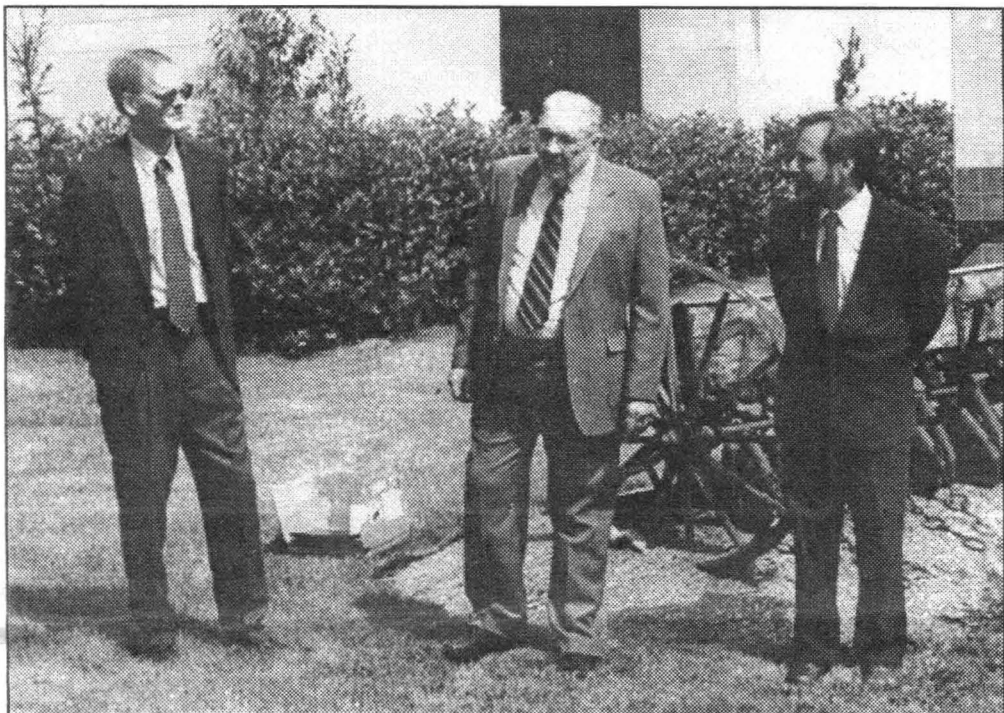
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SKYWARN Pioneer Sherman C. Carr, W9NGT, SK



Sherm Carr, W9NGT (center) with Rusty Kapela of the National Weather Service following last year's award presentation for Carr.

Photo courtesy Tom Kucharski, KA9EWJ

NEWINGTON, CT, Mar 16, 2000 -- The father of SKYWARN -- Sherman Carr, W9NGT, of Hartford, Wisconsin -- died March 15. He was 83. Carr was an ARRL member for nearly 40 years.

Begun more than 30 years ago, SKYWARN is a cooperative effort through which real-time weather information is relayed via Amateur Radio to NWS offices during severe weather conditions. Carr was Wisconsin Section Emergency Coordinator in the late 1960s when he established the first Amateur Radio weather-spotting network, Weather Amateur Radio Network - WARN - with assistance from Dave Theophilus, W9KWQ, a NWS meteorologist in Milwaukee. In those largely pre-repeater days, the network operated on 75 meters -- static crashes notwithstanding. Carr's idea worked so well that other states adopted its basic structure, which eventually was implemented as SKYWARN.

Last June, the National Weather Service honored Carr for his role in helping to create the SKYWARN program by presenting him with its Central Region Special Service Award. Wisconsin's current SEC Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR, called Carr "as much a pioneer as the first astronaut." Rusty Kapela of the NWS put it during last year's award ceremony: "The NWS's mission of issuing warnings to protect life and property would have been more difficult if it were not

for the contribution of the Amateur Radio operators."

Carr also coordinated several very large flood watch networks in the 1960s when Wisconsin experienced heavy snow packs in the northern part of the state. Working via the Wisconsin Sideband Net, the operation fed river level reports to the US. Army Corps of Engineers, the National Weather Service, the American Red Cross, and the Wisconsin Department of Emergency Government.

"Carr leaves a legacy of creativity, incredible dedication and innovation in emergency communications, in technical excellence, and thousands of friends who will remember his chuckle and his grin," said Wisconsin ARRL Public Information Officer Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ.

Survivors include his wife, Marianne, and son, Mike. Services were held in Hartford on March 18.

-- Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ

ARRL Editor's note: In 1987, Sherm Carr took a voyage aboard the USCG Cutter Glacier, the vessel to which his son, Mike, was posted. He told his story in the Badger State Smoke Signals. Visit

<http://www.bsss.org/9908f1.htm>.

What county was that again?



BSSS Chairman and Publisher Ken Ebner, K9EN, took to the highways and byways of southwestern Wisconsin for a multi-operator mobile operation in the March 12 Wisconsin QSO Party. Ken operated from Sauk, Juneau, Vernon, Richland, Crawford, and Grant counties.

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and winner • See page 5**



WHAT'S HAPPENING

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Edited by Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901 • kebnetter@palacenet.net

Swapfests

and Other Social Events

FRIDAY, APRIL 7 and SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 2000 Milwaukee AES Superfest 2000. See ad last month. BSSS will be there.

SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 2000 Rochester Hamfest and Computer Show Olmsted County Fairgrounds Rochester, MN Doors open at 8 a.m. Info: <http://members.aol.com/rarchams> (507) 285-6522

SUNDAY, APRIL 9, 2000 Madison Swapfest Mandt Community Center, 4000 Mandt Parkway, Stoughton, WI Doors Open: 8 a.m. Accessible from the Madison Beltline (Hwys 12 & 18) or I-94 via Hwy N. Hwy N passes right through Stoughton. Talk-in on the 147.15 repeater. For information: (608) 245-8890 or at www.qsl.net/mara/. See ad last month. BSSS will be there.

SATURDAY, MAY 6, 2000 Ozaukee Radio Club 22nd Annual Radio and Computer Swapfest 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Circle B Recreation Center Int. of Hwys 60 and Cty. J Examinations by Badger Examiners, Gary Sharbuno, 5119 W. Willow Rd., Brown Deer, WI 53222. Information: ORC, 1702 Holly Lane, Grafton, WI 53024.

SATURDAY, MAY 13, 2000 Lakeshore Hamfest and Computer Swapfest Manitowoc County Expo ManCoRad Radio Club Info: Dick, N9QFY, (920) 682-9264 P.O. Box 204, Manitowoc WI 54221-0204

MAY 19 - 21, 2000 Dayton Hamvention, and ARRL National Convention Dayton, OH Information: (937) 276-6930 weekdays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Web: <http://www.hamvention.org> Email: info@hamvention.org

Badger State Smoke Signals

Amateur Radio Education and Information

CHAIRMAN: Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901. Telephone (608) 742-3560. kebnetter@palacenet.net

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EDITORIAL BOARD: Ken Ebnetter, K9EN; Don Evenson, K9JYX; Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ.

Subscription Rate

1 year (12 issues) \$13.95

Subscription form is on page 5. Special club package reduced rates are available. For information, contact Ken Ebnetter, K9EN.

When to Send It

The closing date for each issue is the first of the month for the next month's issue. For example, the closing date for the June issue is May 1. The only exception is for participating clubs' minutes. Participating clubs are requested to send their material no later than FIVE DAYS after the club's meeting. For example, if a club meets on the 4th of the month, the material should be sent no later than

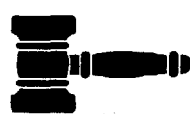
Advance registration: (937) 276-6930 or tickets@hamvention.org (From The ARRL Letter)

SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 2000 W9EAU Hamfest, Eau Claire, WI Information: Jim Staatz, KG9RA, P.O. Box 1867, Eau Claire WI 54702-1867 (715) 838-9108 Info: Jim Staatz, kg9ra@arrl.net

SATURDAY, JULY 8, 2000 Hamfest 00 South Milwaukee Amateur Radio Club American Legion Park, Oak Creek Info: Verne at (414) 762-3235

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12, 2000 Circus City Swapfest Sauk County Fairgrounds, Baraboo, WI Circus City Swapfest Info

As a service to our readers, this section is available without charge to list your upcoming swapfest, hamfest, dinner, picnic, party or other event of interest to Radio Amateurs in Wisconsin and nearby areas. Send information on your event to kebnetter@palacenet.net.



CLUB MEETINGS

ARROWHEAD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
Superior, WI
Meetings: Second Tuesday at WITC Conference Center, 600 N. 21st St., Superior, WI. Time: 7:30 p.m. Board meetings held before regular meetings.

BADGER AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
University of Wisconsin - Madison/W9YT
Meetings: First Mondays at 7:30 p.m. in UW Union

South. Information: Don Michalski, W9IXG, (608) 263-4685. Email: w9ixg@arrl.org. Web: <http://www.qsl.net/w9yt>.

BADGERLAND AMATEUR TELEVISION SOCIETY (BATS)
Check BATS Web page: <http://www.shopstop.net/BATS/> CENTRAL WISCONSIN RADIO AMATEURS University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point, WI Second Wednesday.

EAU CLAIRE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Meetings: 2nd Tuesday - 7:30 p.m., Eau Claire Parks & Recreation 1300 First Ave., Eau Claire, WI 54703. All hams and guests welcome. Wide area coverage repeater KB9RRA, 146.910 MHz. Information: Jim Staatz, KG9MV, (715) 838-9108, or kg9mv@ecol.net.

FALLS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
Menomonee Falls, WI
Meetings: Last Wednesdays at Bank One building in Germantown. Doors open 7 p.m. Meeting time: 7:30 p.m. Guests are welcome!

FOND DU LAC AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Fond du Lac, WI
Meetings: Second Monday at Moraine Park Technical College, Fond du Lac, WI. Time: 7:00 p.m. Information: Gene Olig, KD9ZP, gaolig@pitnet.net Web: <http://personal.pitnet.net/FDLHAMS/>

FOUR LAKES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Madison, WI
Meetings: First and third Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m. Red Cross Building, 4860 Sheboygan Avenue, Room C, downstairs. First building west of Hill Farms State Office Building.

FOX CITIES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Meetings: Third Mondays, 7 p.m., Madison Junior High School, 2020 South Carpenter Avenue, Appleton, WI. Information: Chad at (414) 993-0485.

GREATER MILWAUKEE DX ASSOCIATION
Meetings: Fourth Monday of month, 7:30 p.m. Contact any GMDXA member, or Gary Schwartz, K9GS, (414) 363-4439. Email: garyk9gs@solaria.sol.net. Packet: K9GS@WA9KEC.WI.USA.NOAM Packet cluster NB9C for meeting information.

GREEN BAY MIKE AND KEY CLUB
Meetings: Second Thursdays, Media Services area of J. M. Science Building at St. Norbert College in DePere.

GREEN FOX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Meetings: Third Mondays, 7:30 p.m., Green Lake Town Hall, intersection of County Highways K and N.

KETTLE MORAINES RADIO AMATEURS
Meetings: Second Fridays, 7:30 p.m. Waukesha County Technical College, Campus Science Building, Room 102. Talk-in: 147.39 N9KS repeater

LAKESHORE REPEATER ASSOCIATION
Racine, WI
Meetings: Last Tuesday, January, April, July, October. New meeting location to be announced.

M & M AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Menomonee, MI
General meetings: Monthly, second Thursday, 7 p.m., cafeteria, BAMC basement, Tenth Avenue, Menomonee, MI. Amateurs and guests welcome. Repeater: 147.00, + offset. Sunday net: 7 p.m., 147.00 repeater. Address: P.O. Box 1082, Marinette, MI 54143.

MANITOWOC COUNTY RADIO AMATEURS (ManCoRad)
Second Wednesdays. Directors meeting: 6:30 p.m., City Hall basement, 817 Franklin St., Manitowoc Regular meeting: 7:30 p.m., Associated Bank, lower level, 1000 Franklin St., Manitowoc, WI

the 9th of that month. This material is to be sent to the Editor.

Where to Send It

Address changes and corrections, and exchange papers should be sent to Ken Ebnetter.

Editorial material, photographs, and feature articles should be sent to Jim Romelfanger.

Inquiries about advertising should be directed to Ken Ebnetter. Club, swapfest, and Test Point information should be sent to Ken Ebnetter.

Swapfest ADS should be sent to Jim Romelfanger NO LATER THAN EIGHT WEEKS BEFORE THE EVENT'S DATE.

Subscriptions should be sent, with check or money order, to Ken Ebnetter.

Conditions for Reprinting or BBS Posting Material from Badger State Smoke Signals

Permission is hereby granted to reprint articles or posting articles on radio or telephone bulletin boards from *Badger State Smoke Signals*, providing credit is given to the original author, publication in which the article first appeared, and to *Badger State Smoke Signals*. THIS CREDIT IS MANDATORY, AND NO MATERIAL MAY BE PRINTED OR POSTED UNLESS IT IS GIVEN.

This newspaper is produced by volunteer radio amateurs, and is non-profit. This newspaper is mailed from Portage, WI 53901.

Badger State Smoke Signals is incorporated as a Wisconsin non-stock, non-for-profit organization.

Editorial Disclaimer

The opinions expressed in editorials, guest editorials, columns, articles, and letters from readers are the opinions of the authors only, and do not, unless otherwise stated, express or imply endorsement by *Badger State Smoke Signals*, or by any other individual or organization.

MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS CLUB

Meetings: Last Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., Redemption Lutheran Church, 4057 North Mayfair Road, Wauwatosa, WI.

NORTHWOODS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Rhineland, WI
Meetings: Third Tuesdays. Doors open 7 p.m. Meeting 7:30 p.m. South Park School, Rhineland. Talk-in 146.94 (-600). All visitors welcome.

OZAUKEE RADIO CLUB

Ozaukee County area, WI
Meetings: Second Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m., Grafton Multipurpose Senior Center.

QUARTER CENTURY WIRELESS ASSOCIATION (QCWA)

Wisconsin Chapter 55
Wisconsin Chapter 55 meets the first Saturday of June and October. For information about Chapter 55, contact Ron Yokes, W9BCK, Secretary, 612 N Port Washington Road, Grafton, WI (262) 375 1774.
e-mail rryokes@execpc.com

QUARTER CENTURY WIRELESS ASSOCIATION (QCWA)

Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter 162
Meetings: Third Monday in January, March, May, July, September, and November, 7:30 p.m., usually at Meadows Restaurant, Franksville, WI. Social events: Third Sundays in February, April, June, August, and October. Christmas party: Usually second or third Sunday in December.

RACINE MEGACYCLE CLUB

Meetings: Second Mondays, 7:30 p.m., New meeting location to be announced.

RADIO AMATEURS OF WISCONSIN (R.A.W.)

Oshkosh, WI
Meetings: Third Saturday monthly, locations vary.
"R.A.W. is a family oriented club. Most of its meetings revolve around family doings and outings. We are always looking for good people to join us. - If you are a ham or interested in ham radio, contact Mark Miller, N9WT, (920) 231-1662, or Jeff Opperman, N9OSB, (920) 233-7961."

RED CEDAR REPEATER ASSOCIATION, INC.

Saturday coffee at Hardee's in North Monomonee, corner of Highways 12 and 25 at 9 a.m. Social hour on 4th Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. at the Peppermill Too, 1414 9th Street in the L-Mart Shopping Center in January, March, April, and September through November. Guests welcome!

RIVERLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Onalaska, WI
Meetings: First Tuesdays, 7 p.m., Onalaska Community Center.

ROCK RIVER RADIO CLUB

Meetings: First Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m., Dodge County Administration Building, 127 East Oak Street, Juneau, WI.
ARES Nets: 146.64 (-600) Mondays, 7:30 p.m., Saturdays, 7277 KHz, 10:30 a.m.

SHEBOYGAN COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Meetings: Second Tuesdays, 7 p.m., Sheboygan County Red Cross/Boy Scout Building, 2032 Erie Avenue.

SOUTH MILWAUKEE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Meetings: First Wednesdays, Legion Post 434, Shepard Ave., Oak Creek, WI. Auctions in March and October.

SPACE PLACE AMATEUR RADIO CENTER

No meetings. Located on U.W.-Madison campus. Guest operators are welcome to operate the U.W. Space Place Amateur Radio Station, N9UW. Information: Don Michalski, W9IXG, President, (608) 263-4685. Email: n9uw@sal.wisc.edu

St. CROIX VALLEY RADIO AMATEURS

Hudson, WI
Meetings: Third Tuesdays, St. Croix County Emergency Government Center, Carmichael Road, Hudson. Short business meeting at 7:30 p.m. followed by program. Talkin: 145.13 MHz. All are welcome!

TAYLOR COUNTY AREA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (TCAARC)

Medford, WI
Meetings: Usually first Thursday, 7 p.m. sharp. Usual location: Emergency Government meeting room/Red Cross Office, basement of Sheriff's Annex to Taylor County Courthouse, 2nd and Ogden Streets, Medford. Talkin: 147.15 (+600) MHz. Amateurs and

guests are welcome.

ARES Net: Wednesdays, 8:30 p.m., 147.15 (+600) repeater. Information: Mike Schoenfuss, N9GHZ, P.O. Box 401, Abbotsford, WI 54405. Phone: (715) 223-3996.

TRI-COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Meetings: Held at members' homes. Usually monthly on Sunday afternoon. Contact: Glenn Eisenbrandt, (414) 563-6502, or John Satterlee, (414) 5563-6381.

WASHINGTON COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Meetings: Second Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., Washington County Courthouse. Net: Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., 146.73 (-600).

WATERTOWN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Meetings: First Thursdays of month, 7 p.m., Watertown Public Library, 100 South Water Street.

WAUPACA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

"CQ First Tue.": Social gathering and Dutch treat luncheon, King's Table, King, WI, on Highway QQ, just south of Highways 10 and 54, west side of Waupaca. Gather at 11 to 11:30. Order at noon. Club business transacted. "CQ Third Fri.": Social gathering and Dutch treat dinner. Semi-formal, OM and XYL, at one of the better supper clubs in the area. Check: Waupaca 147.39 nets at 8 a.m. or 8:50 p.m. for month's meeting location.

WEST ALLIS RADIO AMATEUR CLUB

Meetings: Second Tuesdays, 8 p.m., St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 7929 Lincoln Avenue, entrance is at rear of building on alley.

WISCONSIN RAPIDS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Meetings: Third Wednesdays, 7 p.m., Room 14 of Wood County Courthouse. Talkin: 146.79 (-600) for entry into the building.

WISCONSIN VALLEY RADIO ASSOCIATION

Wausau, WI
Meetings: First Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m. Location varies. Information: 146.64 (-600).

WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF REPEATERS

The next quarterly meeting of the Wisconsin Association of Repeaters will be Saturday, September 11, 1999, at the Chalet Motel Restaurant, 10401 N. Port Washington Rd., Mequon, north of Milwaukee. Dutch treat lunch at noon. Meeting at 1 p.m. Information: <http://www.gmttech.com/~war>.

YELLOW THUNDER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Baraboo, WI
Meetings: First Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m., Room 18, Baraboo Civic Center at 124 Second Street. Information: <http://members.baraboo.com/sschulze>.

The Test Point



Amateur Radio Examination Locations and Schedules in the Wisconsin Area

| | |
|----------------|----------------------|
| April 01, 2000 | Onalaska, WI |
| April 01, 2000 | Oshkosh (Omro), WI |
| April 01, 2000 | Pewaukee, WI |
| April 01, 2000 | Racine, WI |
| April 01, 2000 | St. Paul, MN |
| April 08, 2000 | Wausau, WI |
| April 08, 2000 | Medford, WI |
| April 08, 2000 | Blaine, MN |
| April 08, 2000 | Eau Claire, WI |
| April 08, 2000 | Madison, WI |
| April 08, 2000 | Milwaukee, WI |
| April 08, 2000 | AES Superfest |
| April 13, 2000 | Apple Valley, MN |
| April 15, 2000 | Appleton, WI |
| April 15, 2000 | Cottage Grove, MN |
| April 15, 2000 | Loves Park, IL |
| April 15, 2000 | Milwaukee, WI (BE) |
| April 15, 2000 | Madison, WI |
| April 17, 2000 | paper upgrades only |
| April 17, 2000 | Milwaukee, WI (MRAC) |
| April 17, 2000 | paper upgrades only |
| April 18, 2000 | Eden Prairie, MN |
| April 22, 2000 | Bloomington, MN |
| April 22, 2000 | Tomahawk, WI |
| April 29, 2000 | Milwaukee, WI (MRAC) |

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| May 06, 2000 | Onalaska, WI |
| May 06, 2000 | Oshkosh (Omro), WI |
| May 06, 2000 | Pewaukee, WI |
| May 06, 2000 | Racine, WI |
| May 06, 2000 | St. Paul, MN |
| May 11, 2000 | Apple Valley, MN |
| May 13, 2000 | Blaine, MN |
| May 13, 2000 | Madison, WI |
| May 13, 2000 | Manitowoc, WI |
| May 16, 2000 | Eden Prairie, MN |
| May 20, 2000 | Medford, WI |
| May 20, 2000 | Cottage Grove, MN |
| May 20, 2000 | Loves Park, IL |
| May 20, 2000 | Milwaukee, WI (BE) |
| May 20, 2000 | Sheboygan, WI |
| May 27, 2000 | Bloomington, MN |
| May 27, 2000 | Milwaukee, WI (MRAC) |
| May 27, 2000 | Tomahawk, WI |
| May 27, 2000 | Oshkosh (Omro), WI |
| May 27, 2000 | Sheboygan, WI |
| July 18, 2000 | Appleton, WI |
| September 09, 2000 | Onalaska, WI |
| September 16, 2000 | Sheboygan, WI |
| September 16, 2000 | Menomonie, WI |
| November 04, 2000 | Onalaska, WI |
| November 04, 2000 | Kaukauna, WI |
| November 05, 2000 | Sheboygan, WI |
| November 21, 2000 | Appleton, WI |
| January 27, 2001 | Racine, WI |
| Monthly, 1st Sat. | (except January, July & August) |
| Monthly, 1st Sat. | Oshkosh (Omro), WI |
| Monthly, 1st Sat. | St. Paul, MN |
| Monthly, 2nd Thu. | Apple Valley, MN |
| Monthly, 2nd Sat. | Madison, WI |
| Monthly, 2nd Sat. | Blaine, MN |
| Monthly, 3rd Tue. | Eden Prairie, MN |
| Monthly, 3rd Sat. | Milwaukee, WI (BE) |
| Monthly, 3rd Sat. | Loves Park, IL |
| Monthly, 3rd Sat. | Cottage Grove, MN |
| Monthly, 4th Sat. | Bloomington, MN |
| Monthly, Last Sat. | Milwaukee, WI (MRAC) |
| Monthly, Last Sat. | (except December) |
| Monthly, Last Sat. | Tomahawk, WI |
| Monthly, Last Sat. | (January thru October only) |
| Quarterly | Eau Claire, WI |
| (Second Saturday Jan., Apr., & Oct.) | plus annual summer hamfest.) |

Due to space limitations, we cannot carry the full detailed listing of exam sites and directions. Please refer to last month's BSSS (March 2000) for full information. The following are additions and corrections since that printing.

Milwaukee MRAC/VEC update 3/25/2000

Wausau listing added 3/17/2000

Medford, Wisconsin update 3/15/2000

Please note addition ("Paper Only" Session April 16) and correction to Madison listing.

MADISON, WI

Every second Saturday morning at 8 a.m. VE exams are held in Madison. They are held at the operations building of the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District at 1610 Moorland Rd. Directions: Take the Beltline (Hwy 12 and 18) to South Towne Drive. Go south 8/10 mile until South Towne Drive makes a bend and becomes Moorland Road and enter at gate. You should bring a picture ID, your original licence and a copy of your licence. For exams beyond the novice tests, bring a check for \$6.65, made out to the ARRL/VEC. If the special form with the medical exemption is required, contact me beforehand to obtain one. No appointments are necessary to take exams. For further questions, please leave a message on the mailbox or phone me (Tim Czerwinka, WO9U) at (608) 233-9829. Email address is below. There will NOT be a VE testing session at the Madison Hamfest on April 9, contrary to what appeared in QST.

April 8: For details on the April 8 session, go to <http://www.qsl.net/flarc> for directions to the site. April 16: There will be a paper-only exam session at the Space Place, 1605 S. Park St., Madison, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Please note that no code or written exams will be given at this session. Candidates need to bring the following:

1. Original, signed station license.
2. One photocopy of your station license.
3. ALL original applicable CSCEs.
4. Photocopy of all your applicable CSCEs.
5. Photo ID.
6. Check or money order for \$6.65, payable to ARRL/VEC.

Questions may be directed to Tim, WO9U, at (608) 233-9829 (home phone) or sent to wo9u@arrrl.net. The normally-held monthly exams will continue to be held as listed in the section above this listing.

(continued on page 11)

Getting Ready for Severe Weather

By Skip Voros, WD9HAS,
Milwaukee Area Skywarn Association
svoros@execpc.com

{ECs, please share this important primer on ham radio severe WX operations with your membership, over the air, at meetings, or in your newsletter. If you reprint it, don't forget to give Skip credit. Skip is head of Skywarn, one of Wisconsin's most important volunteer organizations. He specifically made this new document available first to the ARES/RACES community by giving permission to reprint it here, before releasing it elsewhere. Thanks, Skip! (WB9RQR in Wisconsin ARES/RACES Newsletter.)}

The year 2000 severe weather season is rapidly approaching, and once again, the National Weather Service (NWS) will need the assistance of Wisconsin's ham radio and repeater club operators statewide for the SKYWARN program.

Skywarn is a nationwide program, originally developed by the NWS in the late 1960's to promote severe weather Identification, Evaluation, and Reporting. Today, Skywarn is associated with severe weather reporting by hams and non-ham communicators alike. While hams make up the major-

ity, Citizens Band, UHF General Mobile Radio services, and REACT team operators are steadily increasing.

The Badger State is served by NWS forecast offices located in Milwaukee/Sullivan, Green Bay, La Crosse, Duluth, and Minneapolis. Each year their Warning Coordination Meteorologists (WCM) conduct statewide storm spotter training programs for the public and emergency response personnel on the what, where, when, and why regarding severe weather observations and when to make reports. These programs are also always eagerly attended by hams interested in public service activities for their club or community.

If you are a new licensee, a new ARES/RACES appointee, a seasoned ham, or just want to be a ham storm spotter for your area and repeater, now is the time to attend the training programs. There is always a need for more spotters, especially in the rural areas. Even if you are a veteran ham you should attend a "spring refresher" training program. Spotter training dates and education are available from NWS web sites listed on the Milwaukee Area Skywarn Association web page

<www.execpc.com/~svoros>

Amateur radio storm spotter reports are a critical and essential part of the NWS severe weather programs. The fact is that no amount of remote sensing technology (such as Doppler radar, weather satellites, smart weather networks, and so on) can take the place of a trained storm spotter. Why? The spotter offers ground-truth, real-time observations. Let me highlight again the most important aspect of what we provide: ground-truth, real-time observations.

Our Amateur radio community and its operators are ideal candidates for gathering and reporting ground-truth reports because we already have in place an extensive network of voice and digital repeater systems, plus a lengthy and proud history of volunteerism, accompanied by established, and disciplined radio operating procedures. Furthermore, we can provide all this even when other communication systems fail (try making a cellular phone call in your area after a weather disaster!).

The National Weather Service has demonstrated its confidence in the emergency communications capability and organizational skills of amateur radio operators by signing a "Memorandum Of Understanding" a few years back, pledging mutual support and cooperation between the NWS and the ARRL. It is now commonplace for an ama-

Silent Keys

Roy M. Hawkins, WA9KEC, 56, died February 29, 2000. Roy was a long time member of the West Allis Radio Amateur Club. Memorials to the WARAC Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 1072, Milwaukee, WI 53201, or to the American Cancer Society would be appreciated.

John C. Sarvaci, W9GIL, 86, of Milwaukee died February 4, 2000. John was the father of Dick Scarvaci, K9CAN. He was a life member of the Milwaukee Radio Amateurs Club.

teur radio station to be present at all NWS forecast offices.

April 10th - 14th is Tornado and Severe Weather Awareness week in Wisconsin, as proclaimed by Governor Thompson. During that week, on April 13th, a simulated statewide Tornado Watch and Warning will be issued at 1:15 p.m. and 1:45 p.m. respectively. This test is done to insure that all emergency responders are capable of receiving the weather warnings, then activating their personnel and response systems. Skywarn/weather net repeaters should also test their operations during this statewide drill, since it provides us the same opportunities to evaluate our systems and personnel, plus educate newcomers to our functions during actual hazardous weather.

If severe weather is possible on the 13th, the drill will be rescheduled for Friday the 14th. If heavy weather is also imminent on Friday, the test will be cancelled and not rescheduled.

Severe weather reporting is serious business. There is no room for egos or politics. It is a team effort and we must all work together. The NWS is not interested in petty politics or club squabbles. Lives could be at stake and seconds can make the difference.

Severe weather reporting can also be dangerous. Unless you have actually experienced a first-hand weather scare or had storm spotter training, you may not recognize the dangers facing you. If you need to think about your safety prior to making a report, then it is not safe to make the report just then. Operators should only make reports when it is safe to do so. The absolutely highest priority when doing weather nets is YOUR SAFETY. Think safety first, then accuracy and speed of reporting.

What to report? The exact reporting criteria are very similar from one region to another around Wisconsin, but there are minor differences. The exact reporting criteria are determined by each NWS office working with their ham liaison or ham coordination group. The same rules also apply with the reporting procedures. As always, first listen to a local net and see what the Net Control station is requesting.

Speaking of reports, here are a few points to remember that have been learned the hard way: Do not report "hearsay" traffic from other frequencies, TV, scanners, or the Internet. They are considered to be second-hand sources. If you did not see the actual weather event, don't report it. The nets need first-hand observations only. If you previously observed a reportable event, but could not make a timely report when it happened, call the net with a delayed report and indicate that it is delayed. When passing wind speed and hail size reports, indicate to the net if your report is an actual measurement or only an estimate. The NWS considers measured reports as more credible.

It is a good idea to first mentally compose and rehearse your report before pushing the microphone button to pass it. One bad sounding report can ruin the efforts of

Lakeshore Hamfest

Electronics & Computer Swapfest Manitowoc County Expo

Intersection of Hwys 42-151 and I-43 on County Hwy R (Follow signs to Expo Center)

Saturday A.M., May 13, 2000

Doors open at 8 a.m.

Friday night set-up for vendors till 9:00 p.m.

or Saturday morning beginning 6:00 a.m.

Accommodations for vendor drive-ins

FCC amateur exams (see below)

For more information, call

RED (920)-684-3733 or

Dick (920)-682-9264

Call - in repeater frequencies

146.61-

FOOD - DOOR PRIZES - BEVERAGES FREE PARKING

Hamfest Camping Available

Contact

Manitowoc County Expo Center

920-683-4378

5201 Vista Rd.

Manitowoc, WI

Send reservations to:

Manicorad Radio Club

P.O. Box 204

Manitowoc, WI 54221-0204

Please send

S.A.S.E.

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____

State _____

Zip _____

— Advance Admissions \$4.00 each —

— Reserved 8' Tables \$7.00 each —

(Table Reservation Does

Not Include Admission Ticket)

— Electric Outlets \$6.00 each —

TOTAL _____

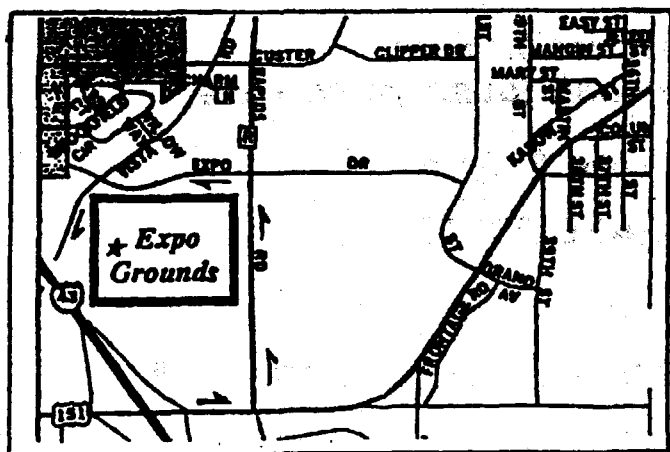
Admission \$5.00 at the door

FCC Exams (all classes)

Silver Lake College (Hwy 151 west)

Test Registration closes at 9:00 a.m.

Please Send a S.A.S.E



Truly Trivial Quizzical Quiz

And the winner is..

We ran another of our mind-boggling trivia quizzes in the February issue. We really don't care to boggle minds, though, so to avoid that we usually write quizzes that have the answers in the same issue. And that is what we did in February. So, first, to be sure everyone isn't boggled, here are the questions and answers:

1. What company is the world's largest manufacturer of Amateur Radio accessories?

MFJ Enterprises, Inc.

2. What is the date of the Wisconsin QSO Party (in CST)?

March 12, 2000.

3. Was the Amateur Radio Service recently restructured by the FCC?

Yes.

4. What is the date of the NSRCfest / a/k/a/ LAMARS-fest?

March 26, 2000.

5. What is the telephone number of Antenna Service Plus?

(608) 938-4999.

6. What is the first name of the owner of Rich's General Store and Surplus?

Rich.

7. In what city does BSSS' editor reside?

Baraboo, Wisconsin.

8. Who writes the "Computer Corner" column each month in BSSS?

Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR.

9. On what page is the column of the Wisconsin Valley Radio Association (WVRA)?

10.

10. In what city is the Circus World Museum?

Baraboo, Wisconsin.

There it is, in pure, unboggled form. And, the winner this time arounds is:

Bob Johnson, WB9EIW

We had about ten entries, and all were correct. So, the hat came out, the entries, both email and snail mail went in, and out came Bob's entry.

Bob will receive \$20 and a great NASA photo for his effort.

Next month, we'll see what we can cook up for another Truly Trivial Quizzical Quiz. It will be a quiz, we are not sure how quizzical it will be, but we can probably say confidently that it will be trivial. Truly. □

Old QSL cards sought

Tony Musero, K3UKW, wrote to tell us he has a friend who is interested in obtaining early ham radio QSL cards from the teens, 1920s, 1930s, and 1940s.

If you have a card or two you are willing to let go, please send them to: Larry Drayo, 383 Lincoln Drive, Cheshire, CT 06410.

Larry can be reached at (203) 230-5255, 24 hours a day, or at (203) 272-6030 at home from 7 p.m. Eastern time. □

Sri Lanka or Bust!

John (NZ9Z) and Cindy (N9XEX) Meyer will be travelling to Sri Lanka to visit with Victor (4S7VK) and his school station (4S7IP) during the first three weeks of April. John is hoping to get his own 4S7 callsign (hopefully 4S7NZG). During his visit, John hopes to do the WARC bands, including 30 meters, and will monitor the NCDXF beacons to spot openings. He is also hoping to try his hand at some RTTY.

For any of you into satellites, John has mentioned that the school station (4S7IP) is on the satellites and is working the SunSat satellite. Additionally, there is mention of it in a satellite bulletin, message # 655 on N9BMS DXCLUSTER along with schedules.

Mancorad News via John Meyer, NZ9Z

CHICAGO SURPLUS

✓ New Allen-Bradley Programmable Logic Control (PLC) Units

✓ Demo Units

✓ Inexpensive equipment cases

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Trevor, WI 53179

Voice: (262) 862-2517 FAX: (262) 862-6376

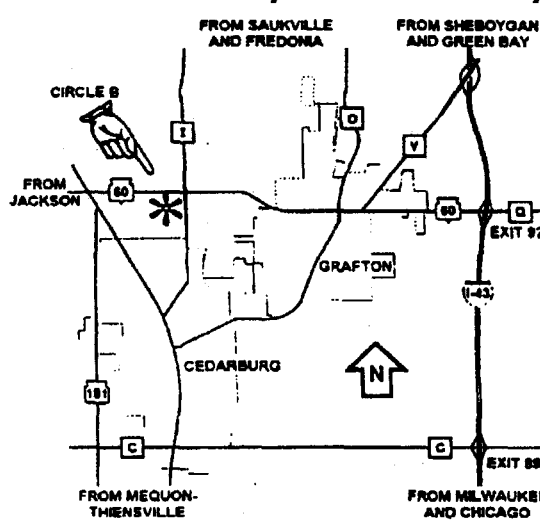
Ask for Jared

The Ozaukee Radio Club, Inc. presents its 22nd Annual
Amateur Radio and Computer

SWAPFEST Cedarburg, WI

SATURDAY, MAY 6, 2000
8:00 AM to 1:00 PM

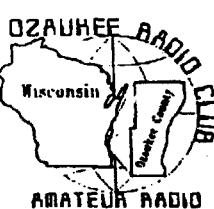
CIRCLE B RECREATION CENTER
Intersection of St. Hwy 60 and Ozaukee City I



Talk-in: 146.37/97 and 146.52

Advance Registration Form - 2000 Ozaukee Radio Club's Cedarburg Swapfest

Please send the following tickets by return mail in the ENCLOSED SASE:



___ Admission tickets @ \$4.00 (same price at the door)

Note: All persons entering the swapfest must have an admission ticket

___ 4-foot tables @ \$5.00 ___ Power requested

___ Return application if power is not available



NAME: _____ CALLSIGN: _____ PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

Mail this form with your check and a SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED (BUSINESS SIZED) ENVELOPE to:
O.R.C. Swapfest Committee - 1702 Holly Lane; Grafton WI 53024

ARRL SANCTIONED
PLENTY OF FREE PARKING
FOOD AND REFRESHMENTS

Amateur license exams will be administered between 9:00 AM and 12:00 Noon. For pre-registration, send a postcard with your name, call, address, telephone number, and exam elements desired to:

Badger Examiners
c/o Gary Sharbuno, WI9M
5119 W. Willow Road
Brown Deer, WI 53223
(414) 355-0237

Bring the original PLUS a COPY of your current Amateur license plus another form of I.D.

RESERVE YOUR TABLES EARLY

Power availability limited - first come first served
(Bring your own duct tape to secure extension cords)

For further information, call Joe Holly, AA9HR
at (414) 377-2137 between 6:00 and 8:00 PM.
(Phone area code changing to 262 after Sept. 1999)

BADGER STATE SMOKE SIGNALS

Subscription Form
Regular Individual Subscription Rate

1 Year: \$13.95

PLEASE PRINT!

Name: _____ Call Sign (if any): _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

☐ New

☐ Renewal

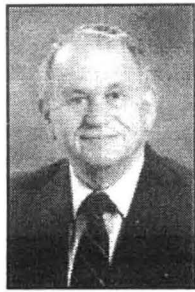
Send this form, with your check or money order, to Ken Ebnetter, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901.

Please do NOT send cash!

APRIL 2000

The Computer Corner

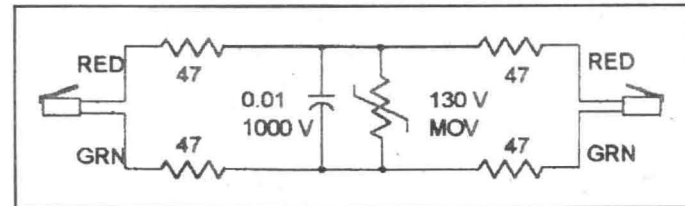
By Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR • 105 Martin Drive
Port Washington, WI 53074-9654
(262) 284-9346
skaplan@mcw.edu



No. 77: A Separate Protector for that Modem

Recall in Number 75 that I suggested you also protect your modem by getting a surge protector with two telephone jacks built into the case. One jack takes a cable that plugs into the telephone jack in the wall and the other holds a cable that goes to your modem. Inside the case are MOVs that prevent surges from getting into your modem from the telephone lines.

Well, what if you already have a surge protector for the computer, but it doesn't have telephone line protection? Those inclined to homebrewing can build a separate modem protector with a handful of parts. The circuit appeared in Aspinwall, J. and M. Todd 1996 *Troubleshooting Your PC*, 3rd edition. IDG Books Worldwide, Inc. [ISBN 1-55828-493-1; <http://www.idgbooks.com>], and Mr. Brian Lew, their Licensing Coordinator, has kindly given me permission to show it to you. Being an avid tinkerer, I built a couple of these. One is protecting the modem in my second computer and the other is doing its duty for a friend's modem. I potted both devices after building them, using the liquid goop made for dip coating the handles of pliers. The device will not damage or degrade the performance of your computer or the telephone lines, but it will protect you.



The four 47-ohm resistors will absorb much of the energy from spikes, and the MOV prevents any voltage higher than 130 volts from getting into your modem. The capacitor works in concert with the resistors to filter out signals above the voice audio range, thus reducing clicks, pops and static on the phone line and generally cleaning up the signal.

Although I have not tried this modification myself, it is said that if the four resistors are replaced with 100 mh inductors, the circuit will supply the same voltage protection and will severely reduce RF interference. Hams with RFI problems, take note!

If you build the device into a long cord with RJ-11 plugs on both ends, you can plug one end into the wall telephone socket and the other into your modem. An alternative is to make the whole line (from RJ-11 plug to RJ-11 plug) only about 6 inches long. Then an in-line coupler (single line style; available at ACE Hardware Stores for about \$2) will let you plug this in to an existing line between the wall and modem. Put it near the wall outlet rather than near the modem. While you are at it, tie one or two fairly tight overhand knots in the wire. This will give some protection in the event of a nearby lightning strike. Put a couple of knots in the AC line going to your regular surge protector, too. Lightning hates to turn corners and will dissipate energy in the knot, burning it up. Hopefully, enough will be dissipated in the knot to save the computer. It is worth a try, since all it takes is the trouble in making a knot or two.

PS: Did you know that only the red and green lines are needed for all phone functions on a standard home phone line? Yep. Look at the circuit diagram. Happy computing!

Reprinted, by permission, from the ORC Newsletter, Ozaukee Radio Club, 101 E. Clay Street, Saukville, Wisconsin 53080-1903 (Skip Douglas, KA9DDN, Editor). □

ManCoRad to put the "Cobia" on the air in worldwide special submarine event operation

The ManCoRad Radio Club of Manitowoc will activate W9DK on board the WWII submarine *Cobia* on April 29 and 30, 2000.

Operating ham radio on the submarine in Manitowoc is part of a worldwide event, the fourth of its kind, with around 55 submarines expected to be on the air.

Coordination of the event is done by Jim Flanders, W0OOG. Information is available at <<http://www.flash.net/~jflanders>> and at <<http://home.sprintmail.com/~jaf>>. (If one does not work, try the other.)

Some operations will be around the clock, while times may be limited each day for some.

Frequencies are, plus or minus 20 kHz:
SSB: 3.843, 7.243, 14.243, 21.343, and 28.443 (+/- 40 kHz).

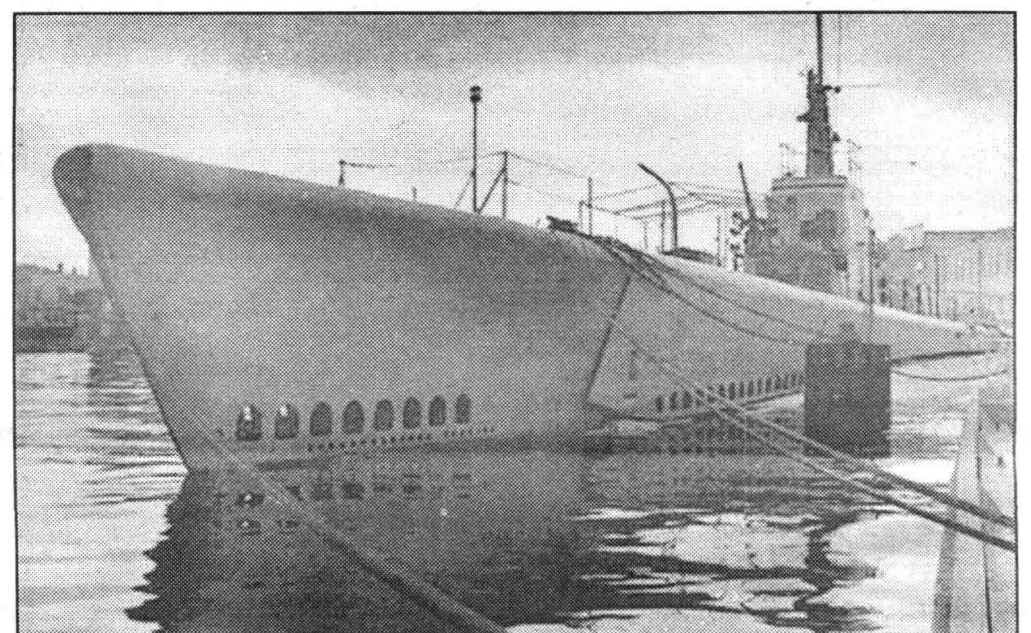
CW: 3.543, 3.743, 7.043, 14.043, 21.043, 28.043, and 28.143. Also, the entire 30 meter band.

Among the other submarines and countries are: A U-505 German U-Boat in Chicago and the *Nautilus*, in Groton, CT., the first nuclear submarine and designated a national landmark by Congress in 1981. A total of 23 submarines in the U.S. are expected on the ham bands.

From other parts of the world, look for the Russian S56 in Vladivostok, two from Australia, one from England, one each from England and France, and possibly others.

Last year, some hams reported not hearing even one sub, while others worked fifteen different ships.

The subs will choose their frequencies within the limits above. There will be a



U.S.S. Cobia AGSS-245 submarine at dock in Manitowoc

callup during the Submarine Veterans Net on 14.243 from 1400 to 1600 UTC. Please don't call in unless invited.

Information about the *Cobia* operation in particular is available from Fred Neuenfeld,

W6BSF in Manitowoc at <fredw6bsf@lakefield.net>. Information about the entire event may be requested from Jim Flanders, W0OOG, at <jaf@sprintmail.com>. □

Severe weather

Continued from page 4

10 good sounding reports. Know the reporting criteria, reporting procedures, and your location.

When describing your location, keep in mind that not everyone monitoring is familiar with your area. Location information

should be referenced against a county, a quadrant of the county, the distance to the nearest city, the city itself, nearest or major cross-streets, highways, or very, very well known landmarks. Mobile stations on the freeway should not use mile markers or exit numbers.

On-the-air remarks like "The sky is very dark here," "It's really coming down," "We just lost our power," "The lightning is really close," are certainly not viable reports and

should be discouraged by the Net Control operator. This type of remark indicates that a certain amount of Stress, Excitement, and Tension (SET) is developing. This 'SET' effect can alter judgement and reporting accuracy. During these times, a good Net Control operator will impart some calming words to all listeners. SET can also create some on-air ill will and harsh words.

Remember that we never criticize a station on the air. Rather, politely correct them for obvious mistakes. This approach will encourage newcomers to follow the correct procedures, and it will not push people away.

Although we are amateur in name, we must strive to be professional in our presentation. Credibility is everything!! Always keep in mind that there may be many non-ham listeners in the background. Our severe weather nets often attract large audiences from among the media, firefighters, police, scanner buffs, radio stores, and emergency managers. These non-ham listeners have increased because people have learned that they can obtain first-hand weather information on our bands.

Earth curvature causes a radar beam to propagate steadily higher into the atmosphere as distance from the radar site increases. While Weather Service Doppler radar units use antennas 28 feet in diameter which focus 750,000 watts of power into a pencil thin beam only .88 degrees wide, they

simply cannot see what is happening at ground level. We hams, however, who work at or near ground level with our paltry 50 watts into a 5/8 wave antenna, are in a perfect position to supply NWS forecasters with needed "ground-truth" information.

Finally, look at the ham radio severe weather process in a somewhat different way. Each severe weather episode we respond to is an opportunity to test our operational readiness and emergency communication skills. It also helps to justify our very existence on the sometimes-shrinking ham bands. Most important, our participation assists in providing community protection, all the way down to our friends, neighbors, and loved ones.

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VARI-NOTCH® DUPLEXERS FOR 2 METERS

The TX RX Systems Inc. patented Vari-Notch filter circuit, a pseudo-bandpass design, provides low loss, high TX to RX, and between-channel isolation, excellent for amateur band applications. TX RX Systems Inc. has been manufacturing multicoupling systems since 1976. Other models available for 220 and 440 MHz, UHF ATV and 1.2 GHz.

MODEL 28-37-02A

144-174 MHz
92 dB ISOLATION AT 0.6 MHz SEPARATION
400 WATT POWER RATING

TX RX SYSTEMS INC.

Dave Barquist, K9PAK, Factory Representative
414-387-2929 or E-Mail txrx@electpdcts.com



19" RACK MOUNT

Wisconsin ham email address list

The list has grown so large it will be available on the BSSS web site only. To add, change or correct your email address listing(s) or your club or group's web address, please email the information to wa9pov@execpc.com. The list is available at <http://www.bsss.org>. Dave updates the list on a regular basis.

PARTICIPATING CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Wisconsin Valley Radio Association

Kim Kunze, N9SDL, Secretary

P.O. Box 363 • Wausau, WI 54402

Six Meter Repeater: 51.19 Input/52.89 Output

Meeting Minutes March 7, 2000

Meeting was called to order by W9WW, members present: N9NMH, KB9FRB, KB9DZG, N9SDL, KB9MCZ, N9SDI, N9WPH, N9NRC, KB9RXA, N9IAB, N9NRA, KB9VBR, N9LIA, KB9DED, KB9IMB, and N9MEA.

Old Business

We discussed the Special Event Station with a special call of W9M for the 150th birthday of Marathon County on April 1, 2000. We will operate from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. on April 1st or 1500Z 04/01/00 to 0300Z 04/02/00. We will be operating on 28.375, 21.325 and 14.250. If you are interested in setup and or operating contact Kim, N9SDL.

The WVRA will hold a testing session Saturday, April 8th at NTC room F211 in Wausau with check in starting at 8:30 a.m. with testing at 9:00. This will be by reservation so contact Kim, N9SDL at N9SDL@arrl.net or 715-842-9736 so that we have adequate tests and forms etc. We will then hold a second paper only session Tuesday evening April 18th 7:00 p.m. at Sam's Pizza in Schofield to process newly acquired CSCE's.

The WVRA provided health and welfare communications at the Wisconsin Special Olympic Winter Games Saturday and Sunday, February 12th and 13th at the Indian Head Golf Course facility for the Cross Country Ski event. Thanks to the following: N9LIA, N9IAB, KB9DED, N9TTA, N9SDI, N9SDL, KB9RXA, KB9VBR, and W9WW.

New Business

Dream Flight Wausau communicator training will be held on the following dates at Rib Mountain Elementary from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. April 3rd, 4th, 10th and 11th. This is where we train approximately 150 fifth grade students from the Wausau School District how to properly use voice and packet communication for use during the weeklong event. If you can help, contact Kim, N9SDL.

The WVRA will also be looking for volun-

teers for the weeklong Dream Flight Wausau event. Those interested in helping as control operator for the 2 meter communications between Mission Control and the Shuttle or assisting students with packet communications or Operate the HF station can contact Kim, N9SDL.

The next monthly meeting of April will be the annual election of board members. We will be looking for nominees for the board positions. Keep an ear to the net as the date of the meeting may change due to Dream Flight training. Also when and if the date changes, readers of the electronic version of these minutes will be emailed with that information.

The MS Walk will be held April 9th with the walk starting at 10:00 a.m. Jack, N9LIA, is looking for 12 to 13 volunteers to provide health and welfare communications. The walk starts at John Muir Middle School. It should be done by about 2:00 p.m.

N9SDI is looking for volunteers for the Junior National kayak races to be held May 6th and 7th. Races start around 10:00 a.m. daily.

Field Day 2000 will be held Saturday, June 24th. With a motion from N9WPH and 2nd by N9NRA to spend up to 35 dollars for the reservation of Camp Phillips, it was passed by all ensuring our favorite setup area. It was discussed operating with emergency power this year.

The Grant Proposal will be submitted the week of 3/6/00. Thanks to the committee for getting this prepared. KB9MCZ, N9SDI and N9SDL.

Jack, N9LIA, has been contacted in regard to participating in the Scout Camporee May 20th in Rhinelander. There was some discussion regarding the possibility that the Tomahawk Radio Club may be interested in doing this. It was not decided as to if the WVRA will do it if the other club decided not to participate. Distance to the event was a discussion point. Setup will be Friday with hands on demonstrations of ham radio on Saturday.

NTC has been reserved through August of 2000 for the WVRA Club meeting use.

Meeting adjourned with a motion from N9MEA and 2nd by W9WW.

Respectfully submitted:
Kim Kunze, N9SDL

Wisconsin Nets Association Ltd.

Bette Kratz, KF9ZU, Secretary

950 E. Trout Valley Rd. • Friendship WI 53934-9672

WISCONSIN NETS

| Net | WNA | Freq. | UTC | CST | Manager |
|---------|-----|---|--------------------------|------|---------|
| BWN | Yes | 3985 | 1200 | 0600 | W9RCW |
| BEN | Yes | 3985 | 1800 | 1200 | KE9VU |
| WSBN | Yes | 3985 | 2330 | 1730 | WB9WHQ |
| WNN | Yes | 3723 | 0000 | 1800 | KB9OCZ |
| WSSN | Yes | 3645 | 0030 | 1830 | N9BDL |
| WIN/E | Yes | 3662 | 0100 | 1900 | WB9ICH |
| WIN/L | Yes | 3662 | 0400 | 2200 | W9UW |
| RCRA | No | 01/61 (Mondays CDT) | 0130 (Menomonee Area) | 1930 | KA9OMC |
| Gr. Bay | No | 72/12 (Green Bay Area) | 0345 | 2145 | WB9NRK |
| ARES | No | 4.65/5.25 (South East/South Central Wisconsin) | 0300 | 2100 | |
| RACES | No | 3993.5 (LSB Sunday) | 1500 | 0900 | WA9OAY |

Wisconsin - Section Traffic Manager Report February 2000

| | | | | | |
|--------|------|------|------|-----|------|
| WIN/L | 200 | 56 | 314 | 29 | W9UW |
| Totals | 3278 | 1923 | 5337 | 203 | |

STATION ACTIVITY SUMMARY February 2000

| STATION | ORIG | RCVD | SENT | DLVD | TOTAL |
|---------|------|------|------|------|-----------|
| K9JPS | 4 | 450 | 58 | 421 | 930 - BPL |
| W9IHW | 0 | 199 | 203 | 161 | 563 - BPL |
| W9RCW | 0 | 267 | 2 | 261 | 530 - BPL |
| W9YPT | 0 | 216 | 240 | 0 | 456 |
| N9TVT | 0 | 112 | 332 | 0 | 444 |
| W9CBE | 1 | 218 | 197 | 4 | 420 |
| K9GU | 0 | 191 | 30 | 193 | 414 - BPL |
| W27V | 0 | 179 | 30 | 179 | 388 - BPL |
| K9FHI | 0 | 59 | 90 | 1 | 150 |
| N9CK | 5 | 65 | 60 | 5 | 135 |
| K9LGU | 0 | 76 | 41 | 0 | 117 |
| W9UW | 1 | 64 | 44 | 2 | 111 |
| N9KHD | 0 | 49 | 37 | 19 | 105 |
| N9BDL | 0 | 34 | 61 | 0 | 95 |
| KG9B | 0 | 17 | 47 | 1 | 65 |
| K9RTB | 0 | 18 | 42 | 3 | 63 |
| AG9G | 0 | 8 | 49 | 0 | 57 |
| KE9VU | 0 | 25 | 30 | 0 | 55 |
| KB9ROB | 0 | 29 | 9 | 3 | 41 |
| KA9FVX | 0 | 3 | 32 | 3 | 38 |
| WB9ICH | 0 | 31 | 2 | 0 | 33 |
| W9BHL | 0 | 2 | 29 | 1 | 32 |
| AA9BB | 0 | 0 | 30 | 0 | 30 |
| KB9QPM | 0 | 4 | 19 | 5 | 28 |
| W9ODV | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 20 |
| WD9FLJ | 2 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 15 |
| N9JIY | 0 | 3 | 7 | 1 | 11 |
| K9UTQ | 0 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 7 |
| KN9P | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| W9PVD | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |

<www.wna.eboard.com>

73.

K9LGU - STM Wisconsin

WISCONSIN SECTION MONTHLY NET ACTIVITY SUMMARY February 2000

| NET | QNI | QTC | QTR | SSNS | NM |
|-------|------|------|------|------|-----------------|
| BWN | 1218 | 1582 | 2175 | 29 | W9IHW for W9RCW |
| BEN | 556 | 73 | 889 | 29 | KE9VU |
| WSBN | 620 | 55 | 957 | 29 | WB9WHQ |
| WNN | 151 | 20 | 332 | 29 | KB9ROB |
| WSSN | 281 | 18 | 337 | 29 | N9BDL |
| WIN/E | 252 | 119 | 333 | 29 | WB9ICH |

communicators at stationary stops along side school checkers, two roving with teachers in vehicles along the route and one following the last walkers. It is always a fun event and for me, the Ham coordinator, a very simple task. The

radio operators are willing to return to their assigned positions each year.

73,
Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO

Quarter Century Wireless Association Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter 162

Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO
5400 Six Mile Road
Racine, WI 53402



The Racine Theatre Guild (our answer to New York City's big Broadway Productions) while in production of a play set in 1939, "The Man Who Came to Dinner", found recreating the look of the period not an easy task. The "props" manager, among her other duties, had to find vintage 1930s microphones for a scene in which a Christmas radio program was to be recorded. After turning Racine inside out, the manager located Bob Jensen, W0WLN and Margaret (W9PMY) and Paul (N9RGW) Smedegaard. Margaret's father, now a SK, and the original owner of her call, had a collection of vintage microphones. The collection that now resides in the Smedegaard home was offered for the Guild's use. Bob Jensen a stickler for detail went to a play rehearsal to make sure the microphones were laid out and used in the proper way. As season ticket holders, my wife and I attended the play and can say that the microphones were used in a most professional manner. The rest of the play was very good also.

Our Chapter's Anniversary Social event is scheduled for Sunday, April 16th at 12:30 p.m. And although at this writing, a location has not been finalized, I do believe the group will select Bentley American Grille at the Marriott Hotel, 7111 Washington Ave (Hwy 20) in Racine. Details will be discussed on our Thursday 9 p.m. net, 147.270 MHz. Notification cards will not be sent to those checking into the net nor to those members who do not attend our social functions.

On Friday, May 12, 2000, nine of our chapter members will provide communication for the Racine Lutheran High School's annual walkathon. Members Spencer Clope, W9LDH; Fern Fisher, W9LCJ; Al Algiers, W9HR; Herb Ladwig, W9PHJ; Ed Konicek, W9NVK; Bill Komistra, W9OVZ; Bob Jensen, W0WLN; Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO; and Lloyd Gorsiski, WB9RGO, will join with Bill Firchow, NW9P; Rick Panyk, KG9ER; Mike Melnik, N9PMO; and Kathy Madson, N9ZWE, to blanket the walk with communication coverage. We will have ten

Lakeshore Repeater Association

147.270 MHz • Racine, Wisconsin

**Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO • 5400 Six Mile Road
Racine, WI 53402-9741
wa9jmo@wi.net**

Our spring quarterly meeting will be held at the Racine Red Cross Building, 4521 West Taylor Avenue in Racine, beginning at 7:30 p.m., on Tuesday, April 25, 2000. Our agenda items include the relocation of our 70-cm repeater from the Explorer Post in Kenosha to a point just North of the Kenosha/Racine boundary line. Details on the move are being finalized as of this writing.

At our January meeting the membership authorized the Board of Directors to replace, if needed, our currently two-meter repeater antenna system. We are also working toward that goal as we research the available antenna system selec-

tions, locate a commercial climber, and attempt to test the current antenna's transmission line. The target completion date for both projects is late May or early June of this year. There is also the remote possibility that we can extend our two-meter coverage later this year. The details for this change are still vague and we hope to have more information at our April 25th meeting.

An ARES meeting will precede our April 25th meeting. It is scheduled at 6 p.m., to last an hour.

73,

Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO, President

Remembering the father of SKYWARN: Sherm Carr, W9NGT

NWS' Rusty Kapela on the passing of a giant

We here at the NWS Sullivan office are greatly saddened by the news of Sherm's death.

Sherm (Carr, W9NGT) was a giant of a man in the Amateur Radio world and severe weather communications. Every time we issue a severe weather warning we are doing so with the help of Sherm's pioneering efforts back in the 1960s.

Amateur Radio severe weather reports are a critical part of the warning process...both in terms of helping the NWS issue warnings prior to the actual severe weather element, and in the post-storm verification mode. Simply said, the NWS Sullivan office could not accomplish its duties in issuing severe weather warnings without input from the Hams. It takes a team to move a mountain, and the Hams have always been a class-act team! Sherm was able to recognize the need to build a "team", and because of his efforts the loss of life and property due to severe storms has been minimized!

We feel fortunate that we were able to publically recognize Sherm in a special ceremony in June, 1999, when he was presented a "NWS Central Region Public Service Award."

Rusty Kapela, Warning Coordination Meteorologist

A lot of Wisconsin radio amateurs have done some pretty amazing things, and it likely is not possible to recognize or even know who all of them are.

One of the greats was Sherman Carr, W9NGT, Hartford, who died in March. I knew Sherm very well, and worked with him on some projects for more than thirty years. It's always difficult to write something like this, and more so when it is about someone you knew so very well. It is not possible to put into the printed word the feelings and the memories, nor is it possible to summarize the achievements of someone like Sherm in writing. Some things just can't be done, but writers always try their best.

Sherm was a man of vision, a guy with an unusual combination of being a good planner, yet not taking anything too seriously at any one time. His focus was the goal, but bumps in the road didn't distract him. Sometimes they would make him chuckle, sometimes maybe a few choice words would be voiced. But the goal was exactly that, and he never lost sight of where he was going. So it was that SKYWARN was born.

Working with some great folks from the National Weather Service, Sherm carefully laid the foundation for what now is a nationwide program. A memorandum of understanding is in effect between our national organization, the ARRL, and the NWS.

The NWS depends heavily on real-time reports from spotters. Doppler radar does tell the NWS much more than older systems did. But the guy at the scene knows *exactly* what's going on. And, following a severe weather event, spotters provide damage assessments and reports, which are also

W9NGT: "It wasn't just Sherm."

In accepting the award last July from the National Weather Service, Sherm Carr, W9NGT, said:

"We who are appointed to leadership roles may come up with great plans and procedures, but they are just so many words on paper unless there are many, many dedicated amateurs willing to give their time and effort to carry out these plans and procedures."

"Over the years, amateurs have never failed to respond, no matter what the situation. I realize that this award cannot be divided into hundreds of parts, one for each, so I am deeply honored to accept this award, not only for myself, but on behalf of all of the hundreds of dedicated amateurs who, with their concerted efforts, actually helped to make this award possible."

Continued on page 9



SHEBOYGAN County Amateur Radio Club

Sky Borkenhagen, N9XRU, Secretary
N6466 Plank Circle • Glenbeulah WI 53023

2-Meter Repeater: 147.06 Output

The March meeting was called to order by the club President, Steve, N9TRK, at 7:00 p.m. local time. There were 12 members present at the meeting. The SCARC meetings are held every second Tuesday of the month in the Red Cross building at 2032 Erie Ave. in Sheboygan. The club treasurer Mike, K9SJ, gave the treasurer's report as being at \$334.62 at present.

Plans were discussed for the Sheboygan County MS Walkathon event, scheduled for Sunday April 9th at the Sheboygan North High School start point. Signed up operators are meeting on site at 8:00 a.m. for event assignments.

Plans were also discussed for the upcoming Leukemia Ride scheduled to come thru Sheboygan County on Saturday July 22.

Member introductions followed.

Club operators who were in the Wisconsin QSO party shared their experiences and results. Thanks to all who participated in this year's event, well done!

The basement station room bench is going to be installed, and further room plans were discussed. The club's tower and antennas were also discussed, along with the possibility of keeping the present setup.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m. local time.

The SCARC 2 Meter net meets Monday nights at 8:00 p.m. local time on 147.060 PL107.2+. This is a fun net, all are welcome. Any members willing to take net control for one or more weeks? Contact Steve, N9TRK.

The Saturday morning Sheboygan Ham's

breakfast is held at the following venues:

1st Saturday at 8:00 a.m. - Jumes in Sheboygan

2nd Saturday at 8:00 a.m. - Family Restaurant in Cleveland

3rd Saturday at 8:00 a.m. - Jumping Jacks - Kohler Sports Core

4th Saturday at 8:00 a.m. - Park View Restaurant - County PP Sheb Falls

5th Saturday at 8:00 a.m. - Hill Farm Restaurant - County V and OK

Hams, spouses, hangers-on and such are welcome.

For addresses, phone numbers etc., see the yellow pages.

Just a reminder, if you use e-mail, consider signing up on the Sheboygan Hams mailing list. Simply submit your e-mail address to: <julian@bongo.tele.com>. All e-mail sent to <shebham@tele.com> will be forwarded to all listed subscribers. Thanks, N6ARE, for providing this mail server for SCARC use!

For those of you who do not have an e-mail address and have correspondence for the club, our address is: SCARC, P.O. Box 1282, Sheboygan, WI 53082-1282.

Net Schedule

8:00 p.m. Monday nights, SCARC fun net, 147.060, PL 107.2+ □

RED CEDAR REPEATER ASSOCIATION, INC.

STEVE HART, KA9OMC, SECRETARY

E616 810TH AVENUE

KNAPP, WI 54749

2-Meter Repeater: 146.01 Input/146.61 Output

Greetings, RCRA sponsors and guests.

Good news from the following:

N0PDD, Bob Stark at Winona, MN, passed his General written at Winona on March 18 and will qualify for a General ticket after April 15.

KB9LUK, James Kinney, got his Hamtronics Cor 6 controller kit mated with his GE Master II on March 19 and placed his Eau Galle 448.475 / 443.475 MHz repeater on the air. PL will be 88 Hz.

N9RSU, Leroy Dick at Eau Claire, finished his semi tractor-trailer training at Sun Prairie at the top of his class. Leroy will be with RoadWay and partnering up with N9NCW, Craig.

KB9JPL, Bob and KB9QGL, Wanda Rohrsen at Elk Mound were on February 9 blessed with a son, Randall Richard, or rrrrrrrRAHHrr for short. Hi.

N9LJ, Jim Fitzl at Eau Claire, received what he wished for at Christmas. Jim is now free of much of the back pain he has been plagued with over recent months. Also feeling better these days is wife Kathy, who has been making the Saturday breakfast at Hardee's in Menomonie.

Blaze Cunningham from "Crystal Cave" fame at nearby Spring Valley recently attended a Saturday session and told the group of the over 4,000 feet of underground caverns there. Blaze is currently studying for his Amateur ticket.

KB9SGY, David Garnett at Eau Claire, recently received help from OM W9AVM, Jim Humphrey. With Jim's repairs to the Heath HW-100, Dave has been working France and a State Patrol ham station, N6SP, on ten meters.

KB9TLV, John McDonald at Cumberland, has received his due for working 1040 grid squares on 50 MHz from October 1 to November 24, 1999. See February QST, page 79.

KB9UZY, Ken Heintz at Knapp, finds great pleasure in volunteering at the animal shelter, Red Cross, and ham club.

The RCRA annual auction February 22 was a success, with 114 in attendance. Over \$875 was raised as a result of this year's auction. Next

year's auction is February 27.

The 2000 Eau Claire Auction Team

Auctioneer: W9QAH, Bruce Walther

Auctioneer's Assistants: KB9SHO, Jarad Walther, and KB9LUK, James Kinney

Kitchen Help: KF9CU, Arlene with OM Dave Kraft; KB9MMT, Jeff Wait; and Terry Morgan

Clerks: KB9UZY, Ken Heintz, KB9TLV; John McDonald; and N9PPE, Jeff Cole

Door Prize Table: AA9UK, Rod Steele

Sign-In Table: KG9RA, Jim Staatz

On-Air Directions: NQ9X, Ed Van Sickle

Cashier: KA9OMC, Steve Hart

Standby Help: KE9BM, Ron Moody; KB9SGY, David Garnett; W9AVM, Jim Humphrey; K0BUD, Mike Sigelman.

Special thanks to door prize contributions from the Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club, Indianhead Electronics, Bushland Radio, WB9PMF, and those donations 100% to the club from many of you, and for those generous donations of food and purchase of food at the Kitchen.

The last spring social hour will be April 25 at 1414 9th Street, Menomonie. Meeting time is 7:30 p.m. at the Peppermill Restaurant in the L-Mart shopping center.

Wanted: Rohn 20 tower sections. Call Bob at (715) 879-4543.

For Sale: C168A Standard 2-meter HT. Call (715) 836-9235.

RCRA Secretary/Treasurer
Steve Hart, KA9OMC

The Racine Megacycle Club



Club Station W9UDU • Racine, WI
Don Parkinson, KB9HAM, Secretary
c/o RMC • P.O. Box 3 • Racine, WI 54301-0003

e-mail: w9udu@wi.net

Web: <http://www2.wi.net/~hamradio/>
Voice mail: (414) 552-6RMC • ARRL Affiliated

Providing communications for American Red Cross and ARES

The Racine Megacycle Club met Monday, March 13th at 7:30 p.m. with Robert Burgermeister, W9EH, presiding. The minutes were read by Don Parkinson and a motion by John Weeks, AA9XD, and seconded by Mathew Weeks, KB9ULU, to approve the minutes. Those present unanimously voted to be approved. The treasurer had not arrived to read and approve his report, but was told by Reese "Sprint" Roberts, K9UUT, that Greg Holding was unable to get away from his work. Our president told Reese to place the call through with the aid of his speaker phone on his cellular (chuckle, HI HI). Therefore, we do not have a treasurer report this evening.

Robert, W9EH, had several brief items to cover:

He acknowledged that one of our younger members, Patrick Weeks, KB9ULT, (disposed this evening with a virus, but represented by his dad and brother) became as of yesterday KB9-ULT/AA and will be going for his Extra License in April. All present applauded to recognize Patrick's accomplishment.

Robert Burgermeister, president, presented to Reese Roberts, K9UUT, a plaque. He states, "This plaque is presented to you in behalf of the Racine Megacycle Club. It says, 'K9UUT, for your efforts for creating a Web Page for the RMC will help bring the RMC into the 21st Century, the club thanks you.' For those that are interested, the web page can be found at <WWW.W9UDU.ORG>."

After the presentation, Reese was surprised and speechless.

Dan Miller, KA9OIL, also announced that were others in the group that have upgraded just recently. The president asked if they would fill them in. Dan's wife upgraded to Extra, Mary Urban, N9ZWE, upgraded to General; her husband, Alan Urban, N9ZWE, to General; N9BJI, Joe Bodeau, will become a General if he fills out a form.

Dan also reported that testing has become very busy. It averages around 16 and this last month they had 19.

April 1st they will be testing again, but on April 15 there will be a paper session for those that can upgrade based on the new requirements. This will take place at the Red Cross Building.

The president opened the floor for everyone to introduce themselves. One of the calls was a vanity call, K9CPO, Nathan Mc Crayhne is a Chief Petty Officer. And that is what his unique suffix represents. The club welcomed a new

member, Gary Clapp, AB0IQ, who hold an Extra License.

The few members in the group who participated in the New Years Day communication created a special QSO card that was passed around or shown to those interested to see at the meeting.

Robert Burgermeister and Robert Reese met with Craig Bush at the Red Cross Building. Craig was very open and very receptive to other suggestions that they made. Gateway is not available to us during June and August. So, during June and August the club will utilize the Red Cross for those months. Sunday is wide open and Robert suggested that we run the station and use the equipment on those days. He also asked for any volunteers to help out this great cause. It will not only establish our presence there but it will get us familiar with the equipment -- and most of all, promoting and having fun.

We also have a weekend long meeting in June: "Field Day." We would like to take Field Day into a more realistic setting. It is more likely of an event that we would be to set up in a building. We have the opportunity to use the building that day. The weekend is available and air conditioned and not have to haul the equipment. We could exercise a generator. Any comments? what do you think? A change in our classification would be in order. The club entertained the idea and it would provide good publicity for the Red Cross and the club.

The generator in the building requires some maintenance. The president encouraged all of us to be there and to have fun.

Old Business presented to us by Dan Miller, KA9OIL: A Severe Weather Seminar will be held April 3, 1-3pm and tonight (?) at 7-9pm.

The Banquet was cancelled because of a lack of tickets sold. We acknowledge as a club that there was a lot of work that went into it and we thank those who worked with Larry McCauley, WA9JMO. Though Kathy Madson wasn't at the meeting, the club also extends a special thanks for her efforts.

The meeting was motioned by KB9SXI, Tammy Gardner, and 2nd by Kevin Aney, KB9-LLV. Meeting was adjourned and a special presentation followed.

Reese Roberts introduced our special speaker, Randy Kruszka, WK9M. He is an Extra Class visiting our club. Randy shared with us some interesting digital concepts of cellular. As a group, we thank him for traveling and presenting his knowledge to us.

Remembering W9NGT

Continued from page 8

extremely important. Not all spotters are hams, of course. But reading the log of the severe weather events of a day in early March shows that about 40% of the real-time reports were from radio amateurs. One ham reporting hail may as well not have said anything. The noise spoke for itself.

All of this, all over the country, began with the vision of Sherman Carr, W9NGT. His legacy is in all of those who provide those reports - it lives on. There's no way to know how many lives have been saved as a result of one man's vision and his persistence. It's safe to say it is a lot.

People I run into once in a while tell me they listen to the SKYWARN net for weather information, too.

I can still hear Sherm's voice, I can hear his chuckle and his always good advice. I

see the results of his engineering skills on the circus train, which uses a very small antenna for 20 and 40 meters; an unwieldy contraption designed to be as small as possible and yet work. And I can say with certainty: it works.

Sherm also leaves his wife, Marianne, who is a "coffee and sandwich" veteran of many long sessions during weather watches and warnings, and two sons, Mike and Sheldon.

The impact of Sherman Carr on the public in general and on Amateur Radio specifically will live on for a very long time. Because of his vision, many radio amateurs truly became all that they could be, and maybe more.

Hail and farewell, Sherm. Come good home.

Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ
editor

Mancorad Radio Club

Theresa Hartlaub, KB9KXE,
Secretary

P.O. Box 204 • Manitowoc, WI
54221-0204



2-Meter Repeater: 146.01 Input/146.61 Output

MEETING MINUTES

March 8, 2000

President Fred (W6BSF) called the monthly meeting to order at 7:40.

The February minutes were read, amended and approved by motions made by Dick (N9-QFY) and seconded by Red (N9GHE).

Roger (W9NPX) read the treasurer's report and it was approved by motions from John (NZ9Z) and seconded by Gene (KB9KXF).

There was no old business.

The weather spotter class will be held Thursday, April 20 at 7 p.m. in the basement of the Manitowoc County Jail building. A large group is expected to attend.

Fred (W6BSF) passed around a sample of the quarterly club newsletter he has been working on. Everyone is encouraged to submit worthy articles to Fred for this informational letter which will go to all members. Thank you, Fred, for all your work on this project.

Once again we were reminded of the Cobia event to be held on 4/29-30. Contacts will be made all over the world. Anyone planning to participate should contact Fred (W6BSF) so he can make up a schedule. Let's have a lot of members helping out on this.

Members were given information on getting club jackets. Lakeshore Screen Printing and Embroidery will provide an all-weather jacket in blue with the ham club insignia on the back and the member's call letters and name on the front. They cost \$42.00 for S-M-L-XL sizes, and \$44.00 to \$46.00 for larger sizes. Fred will take your orders. Thank you, Fred (W6BSF) for doing the legwork on this.

Dick (N9QFY) gave an updated report on the hamfest coming up on May 13. All correspondence is out to the manufacturers and vendors. Letters are going out to the clubs. The work sign-up sheet was put out for sign up. Setup will again be on Friday evening. Tom (KB9GRC) will

look into getting local stores to donate door prizes for the hamfest. Testing will again be given at Silver Lake College in the morning.

Dates for the theory class were given. April 24 and 25 and May 1, 3, and 8 from 6:30 to 8 at the club shack. John (NZ9Z) and Roger (W9-NPX) will be teaching. This should prepare anyone for the testing being given at Silver Lake College.

Red (N9GHE) brought numerous items from the nuclear plant which they were getting rid of. He has antennas, power packs, and weatherproof cases. If you can use any of these, they are yours for the asking. Contact Red.

Fred (W6BSF) gave information on a weather radio at Radio Shack, cost is \$69.95. Also there is a weather alert radio by Midland for \$59.95 plus \$4.95 shipping. If interested, contact Fred.

Two drawings were held. Roger (W9NPX) won the \$9.00, and Red (N9GHE) won a CQ magazine.

Thank you, Denise (N4WKG), for providing lunch. Ken (K9HAG) and Mary (Mary (KB9-GOY) will bring lunch next month. Thank you all.

The meeting ended at 8:40 with motions by Ken (K9HAG) and Gene (KB9KXF).

Submitted for approval:
Theresa Hartlaub (KB9KXE)

MEETING ATTENDANCE

| | |
|------------------|----------------|
| Fred - W6BSF | Roger - W9NPX |
| Theresa - KB9KXE | Chris - KB9VLS |
| John - NZ9Z | Dick - N9QFY |
| Ken - K9HAG | Gene - KB9KXF |
| Mary - KB9GOY | Bob - KB9INK |
| Tom - KB9GRC | Red - N9GHE |
| Carl - KA9WYK | James - KB9GOX |
| Chuck - N9WUN | Paul - AA9WI |
| Len - N9QFO | |

FCC: Hold the phone on CORES and FRN

The FCC has rescinded a March 16 Public Notice that announced implementation of the FCC's agency-wide Commission Registration System (CORES) and the issuance of an FCC Registration Number (FRN) to each licensee. The new system, which would supplant Universal Licensing System registration for Wireless Telecommunications Bureau-administered licensees, was to have gone into effect next Monday, March 27. Some key FCC personnel said they were unaware of the new system until they saw the Public Notice on the FCC's Web site.

This week, the FCC said it was delaying implementation of CORES and FRNs and suspending the March 27 effective date "until further notice." The FCC said it plans to soon issue a new Public Notice "clarifying certain issues about the new program and providing a new effective date for implementation."

CORES registration is expected to replace ULS registration within a year and

possibly as early as six months from now. Information provided to the ARRL by FCC officials indicates that a new CORES registration form will take the place of the ULS Registration Form 606 when the new system goes on-line. Once in place, CORES will assign a new 10-digit FCC Registration Number, or FRN, which will replace the Licensee ID Numbers now issued by ULS for WTB licensees. Most FCC licensees are handled by the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau.

The ULS -- which covers Wireless Telecommunications Bureau licensees and applicants -- became effective for the Amateur Service last August, and the FCC still has not removed all the wrinkles from the system. Most hams have yet to register in ULS. Those who have automatically will be registered in the new system.

The ARRL Letter

Nominations open for 2000 Newsline Young Ham of the Year

Nominations are open for the 2000 Newsline Young Ham of the Year award. The award is presented annually to an Amateur Radio operator 18 or younger living in the 48 contiguous states who has provided outstanding service to the nation and community or to the betterment of the state of the communications art through Amateur Radio.

Nominations are due before May 30, 2000, on an official application and accompanied by verification materials. Applications forms are available for a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: 2000 Young Ham of the Year award, c/o Newsline, 28197 Robin Ave, Santa Clarita, CA 91350.

Nominating applications and additional details also are available at <http://www.arnewsline.org>. Scroll down to "Young Ham of the Year Award."

Last year's Young Ham of the Year was Michelle Swann, KE4EZI, of Warner Robins, Georgia. The award presentation is scheduled take place this summer at the 2000 Huntsville Hamfest in Alabama the third weekend in August. For more information, contact Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, newsline@arnewsline.org

The ARRL Letter

Amateur Radio Exams • Swapfests/Social Events
Wisconsin radio amateur email address list
Special Event Stations and other special operations
Links to other Wisconsin and national ham radio sites • More
ALL at: <http://www.bsss.org>

Wisconsin Amateur Packet Radio Association
Allen Schnepf, NØGMJ, Treasurer
Ogema, WI 54459

WAPR News - April, 2000
by Andy Nemec, KB9ALN

The first happening in the packet community is news of the spring WAPR meeting. The arrangements have been made for the meeting, it will be held in conjunction with the Madison Swapfest on April 9th. In fact, it will be held on the swapfest site in one of the meeting rooms at approximately Noon.

As you may know, the Madison Swapfest is held in Stoughton, some 20 miles south of Madison. The 'fest is held at the Mandt Community Center at 400 Mandt street. Do hope to see you there, everyone interested in packet radio is welcome.

Just in time for the severe weather season, the new packet station at the Green Bay office of the National Weather Service will be on the air. In the future, we hope to have a Node alias of NWGRB. For right now, you will need to connect to WIGRB through the packet network, and then connect to KB9ALN-4 if you are running standard AX.25. KB9ALN-3 is the call-sign associated with the IP address. 44.92.20.41

On another completely different matter is the passing of two prominent and well-liked hams in Wisconsin. The man who gave birth to the Skywarn concept, Sherman Carr, W9NGT passed on recently. He was well liked by everyone that knew him, and hams everywhere owe him a debt of gratitude for his innovative use of ham radio for public service purposes.

Both of these gentlemen were true pioneers in their specialties, and many will miss them. I never met either of these fine folks, but I have read many testimonials from hams who knew them. All say that in addition to being great hams, they were great people. They will be missed.

That's all for news this month. Until next time, 73 from Andy.

You will recall that a protocol is an agreed-upon method of communication between two (or more) computers, each possibly having different hardware and software. This month we will continue with a discussion of how data is sent over radio, and the special needs of a radio environment. First however, we need to talk about what data is.

Commonly, letters, numbers, certain text and graphic symbols are represented by an arrangement of bits (and bytes) that conforms to the American Standard Code for Information Interchange, otherwise known as ASCII. This is an agreed-upon standard that allows computers to exchange information (most commonly text), which we know as Data. These bytes represent a unique letter, number, or character in the ASCII Code.

Let's say that we wish to send the ASCII code for the letter K over wires connecting two computers. First we'd look up the ASCII Code for that letter. The ASCII code for

RTTY operators know that there are two easy ways to

WISCONSIN AMATEUR PACKET RADIO MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PLEASE PRINT

NAME: _____ CALL: _____ HOME
PHONE: (_____) _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

HOME BBS: _____ FREQ. _____ (Listing your home
BBS is important)
Your HOME BBS should be a full service BBS, not your TNC's mailbox.

MY PACKET STATION OPERATES: _____ DAY _____ NIGHT _____ 24HRS

I OPERATE A: _____ DIGIPEATER WITH ALIAS OF: _____
_____ FULL SERVICE BBS

PRIMARY PACKETINTEREST/EXPERTISE
IS: _____

YES I want to receive Badger State Smoke Signals and I understand
that part of my dues goes to pay this subscription. cost \$20.00

do this. One is to vary transmitter frequency in accordance with the transmission of the data bits. The receiver has a frequency discriminator that outputs voltage level transitions. One frequency represents a "space", the other represents a "mark". Combinations of marks and spaces comprise the bits - bits that make up the bytes that represent data.

Another way to indicate "mark" and "space" is with two differing audio tones. A pair of tone detectors listens to these tones, and like the example above, outputs the mark and space signals. This is the job of the modem (every TNC has one). This is an important point - we do need to be able to send something representing voltage level transitions via the radio. In packet radio, we use the audio tone method.

Another assumption made in our wire transmission of the letter "K" was that both computers were "in sync". In other words, both computers were expecting an event at exactly the same time and shared some kind of synchronizing signal to insure this. This is known as "synchronous communication".

In radio, we have no such method to insure that the two computers are "on the same page", so we have to use "asynchronous communications". This means that the transmitting computer must send some sort of signal that the receiver can "lock into". Once locked in, the receiving computer should keep synchronization with the transmitting computer. If the receiving computer does not faithfully follow the transmitting computer, the transmission is garbled. This is one area where a radio-tailored protocol can help - not only does it specify the use of a synchronizing signal, it also knows enough to resend a data packet that it knows did not reach its intended receiver.

Summary

We have discussed a few important points here that need review:

1) Data is information, represented by a combination of 8 Binary Digits (bits) called Bytes. In packet radio, the ASCII code is used to represent upper and lower case letters, numbers, and symbols.

2) The ASCII Code is a near universal standard used to exchange text. It is a protocol of sorts, but is not complete enough for radio use.

3) Data is represented by a transition of voltage levels.

4) These voltage levels can't be directly transmitted by radio. We use a combination of two differing audio tones that represent "mark" and "space". The transition from mark to space and back represents a bit.

5) Transmission of data over radio requires some kind of synchronization method so that the computers are expecting the same thing at the same time.

6) Two of AX.25's most important functions are to: a) synchronize the transmitting and receiving computers and

The March 7, 2000 meeting of the Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club, Inc. was called to order at 7:40 p.m. by Steve Schulze, N9UDO, club president. Minutes of the February 1, 2000 meeting were accepted as published in the Badger State Smoke Signals. Steve Schulze gave the treasurer's report for Bill Klinkner, N9KXX.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Four club and a family member were one of thirty-two or so liams who took exams in Madison February 12. The four members passed their written exam for upgrades to (one General and three Amateur Extra).

OLD BUSINESS: Bill Klinkner is looking into another insurance company to provide insurance coverage for the club. The discussion continued regarding the request to use the club's repeater as the last back-up for the skywarn net. A motion was made, seconded and approved to allow the club repeater to be used as a back-up.

NEW BUSINESS: Pete Sweeney, WD9JIB updated the club on what was going on at the EOC and with ARES/RACES. Steve Schulze has offered the club's services to the March of Dimes Walk America on April 29th, if needed. Steve also mentioned the club would have a table at the Madison swapfest April 9. Steve introduced the topic of having a net on the club repeater. It was decided to have a net starting Sunday March 26th, 2000 at 8 p.m. The net is open to all. Steve will be net control at

first. Net control will be assigned to others on a rotating basis. Steve thought of it as being a round table net. There was no buck night (no body had a current roster with them). Meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday April 4, 2000 at 7:30 p.m. Baraboo Civic Center, room 18.

NET: SUNDAY MARCH 26, 2000 at 8:00 p.m. 147.315

Sincerely,
Raymond J. Matlosz, N9MLZ
vice-president/acting secretary
Following members were present:

| | | |
|-----------------|--------|-----------|
| Dave Estes | KB9QDE | Reedsburg |
| Raymond Matlosz | N9MLZ | Reedsburg |
| Steve Schulze | N9UDO | Baraboo |
| Thomas Harrison | N9PQJ | Reedsburg |
| Peter Sweeney | WD9JIB | Reedsburg |
| Ken Johnson | K9DZG | Mazomanie |
| Jim Paul | N9LKY | Baraboo |
| Art Kleefisch | W9WSS | Baraboo |

b) provide for automatic retransmission of corrupted data.

That's all we have space for this time. In part 3, we will look at what an AX.25 packet is, and how it is constructed. Until then, 73 from Andy.

THE TEST POINT

continued from page

MEDFORD, WI (ARRL/VEC)
Saturday, April 8; Saturday, May 20. Sponsored by the Taylor County Area Amateur Radio Club. Testing for all classes, Novice through Extra. Registration starts 8:30 a.m., testing starts 9:00 a.m. Location: The community meeting/conference room in the lower level of the Sheriff's

Department annex to the Taylor County Courthouse, corner of 2nd and Ogden Sts., Medford, WI

Take Ogden St. west off of Hwy. 13 to the courthouse. Park on the street or in the parking lot on the south side of the courthouse. Use one of the two entrances there. Watch for the signs when you get into the building. Talk-in on the 147.15 (+600 kHz, 114.8 PL) repeater. Walk-ins welcome, but if you know you'll be attending, please let us know. Contact: Tom Hrdina, N9GEN, 2373 Willow Ave., Medford, WI 54451. (715) 748-4054. E-mail: Mike, N9GHZ, muzikman@pcpros.net.

MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS CLUB (MRAC/VEC)

MILWAUKEE
Last Saturday, except June, July, and August, 9:30 a.m. to noon at Amateur Electronic Supply (AES), 5710 W. Good Hope Road, Milwaukee. For additional information, call (262) 797- MRAC. Bring along your original license, CSE (if any), and one (1) good quality photocopy of each, plus two forms of identification, such as a driver's license, etc. Also required is \$6.65 for the exam fee. Walk-ins are welcome. To register in advance, use a post card. Print the grade of license you are applying for, your name, address, and telephone number, and send the card to: MRAC/VEC, Milwaukee Radio Amateurs Club, PO Box 25707, Milwaukee, WI 53225, Saturday, April 8, 8:45 a.m. to noon during Amateur Electronic Supply Superfest. Monday, April 17, paper only, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., license upgrades, no exams given.

WAUSAU, WI

Saturday, April 8. Checkin starts at 8:30 a.m., testing starts at 9 a.m. Room F211 of NTC. This session by reservation ONLY. Call Kim at (715) 842-9736, or email N9SDL@arri.net. Tuesday evening, April 18, paper-only, 7 p.m. at Sam's Pizza in Schofield to process newly acquired CSEs.

BADGER STATE SMOKE SIGNALS AND THE WEB

Continuing rising costs have begun to pressure BSSS. In an effort to reduce costs, we are considering distribution of the Badger State Smoke Signals by electronic delivery.

Electronic distribution will mean faster delivery for you, as you should receive it the same day it is ready instead of having to wait for printing, labeling and postal delivery.

We want to know if you would like to receive an electronic version of BSSS each month. Also we want to know how you would like to receive your copy. We do not plan to discontinue the printed version immediately as there are some who do not have access to electronic delivery.

- e-mail to you.
- Available on the web with a password for the latest stories.
- Printed copy via the Postal Service.
- A combination of the above.

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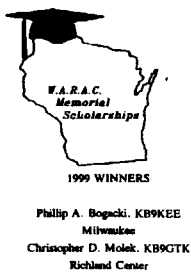
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April 9, 2000

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Sponsored by MARA/W9HSY
P. O. Box 8890 Madison, WI 53708-8890
Swapfest Information Line: (608) 245-8890

**SOUTH MILWAUKEE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
SWAPFEST 00**
July 8, 2000
(Held every July)
American Legion Park
Shepard Avenue • Oak Creek, WI
(414) 762-3235 Extension: Ask for Verne
P. O. Box 102 South Milwaukee, WI 53172

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**HAM RADIOS • COMPUTERS • ELECTRONICS
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SUNDAY, MARCH 12, 2000
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For more information, call (414) 835-7035

LAKESHORE HAMFEST AND COMPUTER SWAPFEST

Manitowoc County Expo
Intersection of Hwys 42-151 and I-43 on Cty Highway R
Saturday, May 13, 2000

For more information, call:
Red, N9GHE • (920) 84-3733
Dick, N9QFY • (920) 682-9264
ManCoRad Radio Club • P.O. Box 204 • Manitowoc, WI 54221-0204

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Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club
W9EAU HAMFEST
Saturday, June 10, 2000

For Information Contact:
Jim Staatz KG9MV at 715-838-9108
P.O. Box 1867 Eau Claire, WI 54702-1867
kg9mv@ecol.net <http://www.ecarc.org>

Stay Tuned! **Racine Megacycle Club**
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E-Mail: w9udu@w9udu.org
Contact us or keep checking our web site for details on upcoming events.

Ozaukee Radio Club
**22ND ANNUAL RADIO AND
COMPUTER SWAPFEST**
Saturday, May 6, 2000

8 a.m. to 1 p.m. • Circle B Recreation Center
Intersection of Highway 60 and County I
Exams by Badger Examiners, c/o Gary Sharbuno,
5119 W. Willow Rd., Brown Deer, WI 53222
Swapfest sponsored by the Ozaukee Radio Club
1702 Holly Lane, Grafton, WI 53024

Circus City Swapfest

Sponsored by The Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club
Saturday August 12, 2000 • 7 am - Noon
Sauk County Fairgrounds • Baraboo, WI

Vendors • Concessions
Camping • Free Parking
Tail Gate Area

\$4 - Advanced
\$5 - At Gate
8 Foot Tables - \$5

Steve Schulze, N9UDO (608)356-2313/356-4777
<http://members.baraboo.com/sschulze/hamfest.htm>
Bill Klinkner, N9KXX (608)643-6908/643-6453

Red Cedar Repeater Association, Inc.

AUCTION

February 27, 2001 • 7:00 p.m.
American Legion Post 53 • 634 Water Street
Eau Claire, WI

CONTACT: Steve Hart, KA9OMC 715-665-2374
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